

political giant in Georgia, dedicating his life to the service of others.

A disabled war veteran of the Vietnam era, Max worked tirelessly to improve the Veterans Administration to help his fellow soldiers. Committed to helping others, Max made it his mission to help our veterans most in need and suffering from mental and physical disorders. As a pharmacist, I am able to personally appreciate his work to make lifesaving medicines more easily available.

His dedication and service to his community and country will not go unnoticed. I am thankful for Max's lifetime of dedicated service, and I know his legacy will live on forever.

My thoughts and prayers are with his family, friends, and all who knew him during this most difficult time.

#### OGLETHORPE SPEEDWAY PARK CLOSING

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to reflect upon the closing of the great Oglethorpe Speedway Park in Pooler, Georgia.

The Oglethorpe Speedway Park opened in March of 1951 and has hosted some of the most exciting weekends for race fans ever since. Sadly, Oglethorpe Speedway Park will be closing its operations for good.

This speedway has become a home for its employees and fans alike such as Darlene Nerich, who has worked each season and every weekend since April 1, 2000. Darlene's daughter took her senior prom pictures and had her wedding at the track so that her mother could continue her streak. Geraldine Jenkins has been attending races since 1951 when she was 14 and has hardly missed a race.

Georgians are collectively mourning the loss of this beloved landmark and the memories it holds. We are sad to see it go, but we are excited for what may come next.

#### REMEMBERING MONSIGNOR WILLIAM OLIVER O'NEILL

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with a heavy heart to remember and honor the life of the Reverend Monsignor William Oliver O'Neill of St. John the Baptist Cathedral in Savannah.

Reverend O'Neill served the people of Savannah for 46 years until his retirement in 2013. He served six churches in his time in Savannah and spent much of his time preserving the history of the church in the city.

Reverend O'Neill oversaw and managed the \$11 million restoration of the Cathedral Basilica of St. John the Baptist in Savannah that was completed in 2000. In 2003, Reverend O'Neill successfully stopped an armed arsonist from damaging the church by telling him: Don't point that gun at me. I will knock your head off.

He removed smoldering cushions from the bishop's chair and a burning Bible from the pulpit as the arsonist looked on. Reverend O'Neill returned, intent on fighting the fire with a fire extinguisher before police stopped him and firefighters arrived.

He was the image of service to others and love for God. My thoughts and prayers are with his friends and family through this difficult time.

#### CELEBRATING WILLIE MAE HUBBARD-WRIGHT'S 103RD BIRTHDAY

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 103rd birthday of Willie Mae Hubbard-Wright of Liberty County.

Born on November 4, 1918, 7 days before the unofficial end of World War I, Willie Mae has been a staple in her community for many years.

During her childhood, she was a proud member of Ebenezer Presbyterian Church in Freedmen's Grove.

She attended grammar school at Dorchester Academy and graduated in 1936. After grammar school, Willie Mae became a boarder in Dorchester, where she learned to sew, a talent that would stay with her many years after her time as a boarder.

The living embodiment of motherly love, Willie Mae sewed clothes for her family and friends, making full use of the talent God had given her. We treasure Willie Mae and are happy to celebrate this momentous occasion.

Happy birthday, Willie Mae, 103 years young.

#### RECONCILIATION

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Kansas (Mr. MANN) for 5 minutes.

Mr. MANN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to discuss the gross misuse of a noble process called reconciliation and the President's apparent lack of concern for the well-being of rural and middle-class Americans.

The reconciliation process exists to do exactly what its name suggests—to direct Congress with a tool of compromise to reduce the national deficit with a simple majority vote in both Chambers. President Biden, Speaker PELOSI, and House Democrats are, instead, using this process to jam partisan legislation through a deadlocked Congress. This is shameful, and American taxpayers will bear the cost in both their wallets and their consciences.

The reconciliation package is chock-full of policy moves that will damage our country and compromise our integrity as a nation. Among them are the expansion of welfare without work requirements. At a time when our supply chains are in crisis and we have help wanted signs at every corner, this will only worsen the issue. Another troubling provision would give the IRS \$80 billion to hire 87,000 new agents and ramp up audits on individuals and small businesses.

Just a few other terrible provisions include increasing penalties for businesses who don't comply with OSHA vaccine mandates which are an egregious Federal Government overreach, imposing new fines on the oil and gas industry, and punishing States like Kansas who have opted not to expand Medicaid.

Perhaps the worst part of the entire reconciliation package, though, is what is not included. Democrats have excluded the Hyde amendment, a long-standing bipartisan amendment that protects Americans who oppose abortion from being forced to pay for these abortions from their tax dollars.

While the President is on a tax-and-spend spree for his party's leftist wish list, the price of nearly everything is skyrocketing in this country. Americans are heading into the holiday season more financially insecure because of this administration's policies. Consumer prices have increased over 6 percent since last year—the highest rate of inflation in over 30 years. Should this massive spending package become law, Mr. Speaker, you can expect prices to keep going up.

While the White House has stated this bill will cost \$1.75 trillion, the true cost of the reconciliation package could be as much as \$3.98 trillion according to some models. As if adding to our Nation's already enormous debt wasn't enough, this bill will drive up inflation and end up taxing the middle class.

This bill is twice as long as the Bible, it is toxic for the American people, and it is a gross misuse of a usually noble process. I stand in opposition to it on numerous counts.

Mr. Speaker, the BBB is bad, bad, bad for America, and I urge this Congress to join me in strongly opposing it.

#### HONORING THE LIFE OF BARNEY BROOKS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas (Mr. PFLUGER) for 5 minutes.

Mr. PFLUGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of U.S. Air Force veteran and San Angelo native Barney Brooks who passed away on November 7, 2021, at the age of 92.

Mr. Brooks was a born pilot and often joked that he knew he was meant to fly even before the stork dropped him off.

In the Air Force, Barney served as a lieutenant colonel and combat pilot completing over 100 missions in the Korean war and 50 in the Vietnam war. Over his 23-year career, he served in Korea, Vietnam, and the Cold War, and he was stationed at multiple bases around the United States and throughout the world.

Our country owes a debt of gratitude to Barney who was brave enough to don the uniform and put his life on the line many times, as well as his family, including his beloved wife, Nancy, and five children who supported him and empowered him to charge forward in the fight for freedom.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Barney for his noble service.

#### RECOGNIZING PHILIP PARKS

Mr. PFLUGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life and legacy of Philip Parks of Odessa, Texas, who passed away on October 29, 2021, at the age of 76.